



THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
WATH

(North Riding of Yorkshire)

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, SURVEYOR AND HOUSING MANAGER

for the

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1972.

W A T H R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
1 9 7 2

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor F.S. Foster, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor T.L. Stubbs

Members of the Housing, Planning and Health Committee:

Councillor J. Brocklebank, C.B.E., J.P., (Chairman)

- " T. Barker
- " F.L. Dawney
- " F.S. Foster
- " G. Frank
- " S.R. Fryer
- " J.F. Graham
- " The Revd. B.H. Newsam (from April 1972)
- " T.L. Stubbs
- " G. Tasker (to March 1972)
- " Mrs. I.M.E. Weatherhead
- " J.C. Webster

Officers of the Council:

Clerk of the Council:

W.C. Eden, 7 Park Street, Ripon. Tel: Ripon 3576.

Medical Officer of Health:

H. Gray, M.D., Ch.B, D.P.H., Health Centre, Easingwold.
Tel: Easingwold 21324.

Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Housing Manager

M.D. Hey, M.A.P.H.I., 7 Park Street, Ripon. Tel: Ripon 3576.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1972

To the Chairman and Members
of the Wath Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasing task to prepare and present to you my Annual Report for 1972. Whilst this Council will continue to function until April 1974, when amalgamation of authorities takes place, it is likely that it will be impossible for me to make a report on my last year with the Council. Sadly, therefore, this report may well be my last to the Authority. For many years it has been obvious that some major change in local authorities would be inevitable, and on grounds of modest size of population, the Wath Rural District could be held out as an anomaly, over-ripe for amalgamation. Yet, in spite of difficulties inherent in a small authority, it has worked with considerable effect, and thanks to the personalities of the members and officials worked very happily to the great advantage of the residents of the area.

The Council's record in housing and sewerage is creditable, and at the time of writing are busily engaged in adding to this stock of bungalows designed for the aged and retiring, and in constructing a further sewerage scheme.

Much thought and work is at the present time going into making arrangements for a smooth transformation in 1974 and I am convinced that this will be achieved without any temporary deterioration of service to the community which seems to be almost inevitable with any reorganisation of this magnitude.

One point on which it is perhaps more fitting for me to comment is the concern again felt in 1972 about the levels of nitrate in water particularly in the Marton-le-Moor area. Fortunately no young enfants suffered ill-effect from the high nitrate level. Pure water has been supplied in polythene bottles to those enfants at risk, but happily, at the time of writing we have news that a main bearing nitrate-free water is now piped into Marton-le-Moor, and the risk should thereby be completely eliminated.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAY.

M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

Description

The Rural District of Wath is situate on the extreme South-West corner of the North Riding of Yorkshire and is on the borders of the West Riding. It lies in the Vale of York and is extremely flat. The area is predominantly agricultural in character, the land being of excellent quality.

The area is bounded on the East by the River Swale and on the West by the River Ure. Neighbouring authorities are the Ripon and Pateley Bridge Rural District Council, Bedale Rural District Council, Thirsk Rural District Council and Easingwold Rural District Council.

Statistics

Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid-1972)	..	2310
Number of dwellinghouses in the District.		
a. Privately Owned	..	596
b. Council Houses	..	145
c. Service Married Quarters	..	48
Area in acres		..17,007
Number of Parishes		.. 11
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1972		£93,387
Estimated product of a Penny Rate as at 1st April, 1972		£895

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Nine cases of measles were notified and one case of infective jaundice.

DESCRIPTION AND POSITION OF THE AREA

Description

The Rural District of Bath is situated on the extreme South-East corner of the North Riding of Yorkshire and is on the borders of the West Riding. It lies in the Vale of York and is extremely flat. The area is predominantly agricultural in character, the land being of excellent quality.

The area is bounded on the East by the River Ouse and on the West by the River Ure. Neighbouring authorities are the Rural and Parliamentary Rural District Councils, the Rural District Council, the Rural District Council and the Rural District Council.

Statistics

Registrar General's estimate of resident population (1921-1922) .. 2,110
Number of dwelling-houses in the district, as officially valued .. 2,382
B. Council houses .. 142
C. Council houses .. 142
D. Council houses .. 142

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

VITAL STATISTICS

	Local authority area			England and Wales (Total)		Local authority area	England and Wales
	Males	Females	Total				
Estimated mid-year home population	-	-	2,310	49,028,900		-	-
Live births Total Legitimate Illegitimate	11 10 1	12 10 2	23 20 3	725,405 662,907 62,498	Live birth rates, etc. Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate) Area comparability factor Local adjusted rate Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate Illegitimate livebirths as percentage of all live births	10.0 1.07 10.7 .72 13	14.8 1.00 14.8 1.00 9
Stillbirths Total Legitimate Illegitimate	- - -	- - -	- - -	8,794 7,846 948	Stillbirth rate Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births	-	12
Total live and still births Total Legitimate Illegitimate	11 10 1	12 10 2	23 20 3	734,199 670,753 63,446			

VITAL STATISTICS (Continued)

	Local authority area			England and Wales (Total)		Local authority area	England and Wales
	Males	Females	Total				
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	-	-	-	12,494 11,177 1,317	Infant mortality rates Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate births Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	17 17 21
under 4 weeks of age	-	-	-	8,373 7,503 870	Neonatal mortality rate Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	-	12
under 1 week of of age	-	-	-	7,142 6,365 777	Early neonatal mortality rate Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births Perinatal mortality rate Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	-	10 22
Deaths - all ages	13	8	21	591,907	Death rates, etc. - all ages Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate) Area comparability factor Local adjusted rate Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	9.1 1.17 10.6 .88	12.1 1.00 12.1 1.00

CAUSES OF DEATH

Registrar General's Return

<u>Diseases</u>	M	F	1972 Total
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Other malignant neoplasms	2	-	2
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Other diseases of nervous system	-	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease	2	2	4
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	-	1
Cerebrovascular disease	1	1	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	-	1
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	-	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	2	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	-	1	1
Total all causes	13	8	21
Total deaths - all causes - 1971	14	7	21

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Day to day administration of those functions of the Local Health Authority (County Council) within the boundaries of the Rural Districts of Flaxton, Easingwold, Thirsk and Wath is centred in the Area Health Office at Easingwold. The office is situated in the New Health Centre.

Reorganisation of Local Government boundaries in 1974 will divide the area three ways. The Flaxton R.D. joins with other districts to the north and east of York, Easingwold and Thirsk join other authorities to the north, and Wath together with the detached part of Thirsk R.D. join with other authorities to the west centred on Harrogate. Fortunately the new Area Health Board which takes over health functions from the North Riding County Council does not further separate the area, but when this area is sub-divided into districts which will be centred upon District General Hospitals, these districts will not coincide in boundaries with the local authority districts. The difficulties which these administrative changes entail will be considerable and it will no doubt take a considerable time before the benefits expected from these changes will become apparent.

At the present time the area has a population of 63,040, half concentrated in the southern part adjacent to York and remainder fairly uniformly spread over some 400 square miles, with smaller concentration in the market towns of Easingwold and Thirsk. Your Medical Officer of Health holds appointments with the four district councils and with the County Council in duties with the Health and Education.

Laboratory Facilities - These are provided, following closure of the Public Health Laboratories at Northallerton, by the Friarage Hospital at Northallerton, the laboratory at York County Hospital, and at Public Health Laboratories at some distance.

Dental Service - One full-time and one part-time dentists are employed, working in dental clinics in three large schools and in the Thirsk Clinic. A well equipped mobile clinic is also used. In the new Health Centre at Wigginton a dental surgery is to be provided, but the financial arrangements which at present exist seem to preclude the use of dental facilities in Health Centres by the general public and private dentists. This is a pity as one can visualise in the future that the health centres should be the centres at which all primary care is available.

Maternity and Child Welfare - There was a fall in live births from 982 to 933 and the children born in hospital remains at 94 - 95%. Stillbirths at 17 are approximately 40% higher than the Country average of which half were due to prematurity, a feature which is regularly found in this locality and upon which I have previously commented.

Attend ces at Infant Welfare Clinics remained unchanged again at 2566 (2694 children attended in 1971). The Health Visiting staffs are becoming orientated into developmental pediatrics which should enable them to give a more comprehensive service to children with special needs.

Relaxation and Mothercraft classes show a continuing increase in attendance; these are organised by both Health Visitors and Midwives.

The Health Visitors have contributed to the various Health Education Programmes presented by the County Health Education Officer in school, clinics, and the clubs, etc. The subjects have been smoking, diet, dental health and clean food.

Nursing Service - in line with the recommendation of the Mayston report, Mrs. Aiston has been appointed as Area Nursing Officer, and I am indebted to her for this section of this report.

The following tables show staff employed at the year end.

	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>
Health Visitors	10	2
Generalised Duties	7	-
Combined Duties	8	1
Midwives	-	-
Home Nurses	2	1

One combined-duties nurse was appointed during the year as holiday relief and the nurse employed for mobile clinic duties is able to give some of her time to District Nursing. Gradual progress is being made to further attachment of nurses and health visitors to General Practitioners and liaison with adjoining authorities is taking place to try to surmount the difficulties of attachment in the boundary areas. Midwives in the Thirsk and Flaxton areas are taking part in the G.P. Maternity Units early discharge scheme in Northallerton and Fulford Maternity Hospitals.

Vaccination and Immunisation - Again there has been no change in the order of recommended procedures, nor of the ages at which these are normally carried out, and the figures for the past 3 years give a reliable indication of the acceptance of the various immunisations of children under 16.

	<u>1970</u>		<u>1971</u>		<u>1972</u>	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Diphtheria	1025	934	965	956	950	796
Whooping Cough	1025	932	965	195	931	129
Tetanus	1364	1009	1260	1260	1095	1133
Poliomyelitis	1046	807	951	1037	959	771
Measles	1310	-	1003	-	892	-
Rubella						
- (Females only)	471	-	636	-	361	-

There are 982 live births in 1971 and 933 in 1972, and it can readily be seen that a very high proportion of children are immunised as infants against diphtheria, whooping-cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis, whilst the proportion vaccinated against measles is almost as excellent.

There is scope for rethinking of the requirements made by countries of travellers, particularly holidaymakers. A chaotic situation recently arose following one or two recent smallpox cases when thousands of holidaymakers had to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated before proceeding abroad. Many would have been quite ill, and as a guarantee that the individual was not in fact liable to be incubating smallpox, a certificate of revaccination carried out the day before setting off is quite worthless.

All our Ambulance staff are revaccinated annually, but the recommendation that other health workers should be regularly revaccinated is, I fear, not universally complied with.

Domestic Help Service - This department continued to operate this service on behalf of the Social Services department during the year and again the period showed a considerable expansion of this. Cases attended rose from 247 in 1971 to 322, and the hours worked from 48,090 to 53,242. The increase seems to be at 10% each year and may well rise considerably further before reaching a steady level. Towards the end of the year the Social Services department made arrangements to take over the service in accordance with legislation, and in anticipation of the reorganisation of 1974. This allowed the staff in the area office to undertake a reorganisation of the school health service arrangements, again in anticipation of reorganisation.

Chiropody Service - We were fortunate in having an increase in staff in 1972 in so far as two full-time chiropodists were employed. With the New Health Centre at Easingwold becoming available it was possible to concentrate work here for the surrounding district but many of the premises used are inadequate, and because the area is so scattered and ill served by transport, a considerable number of patients are treated at home. Some use is made of voluntary transport, and for a few old people the visit to the chiropody clinic, assisted by their volunteer is an event greatly enjoyed. Our thanks are due to all those who assist so nobly.

Care and After Care - The scheme provided by the County Council to provide nursing equipment continues to increase. Nursing staff and patients are able to have on temporary loan such items as - back rests, wheel chairs, walking frames, ripple beds etc. Incontinence pads and liners are available for incontinent patients.

The Social Services and Ministry of Pensions also provide these items where they are classed as long term loan. There is a good liaison between these departments thus providing and ensuring a good aftercare service.

Family Planning - Operates directly as a County Council Service 12 sessions each month at Huntington, Easingwold and Thirsk. A number of North Riding residents continue to attend the York clinic for which a financial contribution is made. The sessions are "open" in that patients do not need to be referred, although many persons attend as a result of information given by midwives, nurses and health visitors.

No charge is made for examination and advice, and supplies are issued free to medical cases, social cases i.e. where hardship would result except for the practice of family limitations, and those in receipt of supplementary benefits.

The future of the service is not at present clear as recent parliamentary decision brings the family planning service into the N.H.S. from April, 1974.

Recently a limited domiciliary service has been inaugurated for those women who could not reasonably be expected to attend at a fixed centre.

Routine Screening - all babies are tested for phenylketonuria either in hospital before discharge home or shortly afterwards by our own nursing staff.

Cervical Cytology is carried out for the early detection of cancer of the womb either by family doctors, at sessions of family planning clinics, or at special sessions held in our clinics.

Health Visiting staff have had training in screening of young children and one of their responsibilities is to review the progress of infants at 3, 6, 10, 18 months and 3 years old. Should any child fail to show normal development of attainment appropriate to the age attained he is referred for more detailed consideration by the Medical Officer, and if necessary at one of the special assessment services at hospital.

Early treatment of defects can then be arranged and if necessary special arrangements for education are made.

During school life a similar scheme has been commenced whereby in place of the four routine examinations by a doctor, a first examination is carried out, and thereafter examination is decided upon as a result of questionnaire completed at 8 years, 12+ and 15 by parents, special referrals by teachers, or as a result of failure of vision and hearing tests carried out just prior to these ages. At the expense of some additional clerical time expended on these arrangements, more medical time will be devoted to consideration and re-examination of those children who fall below a health norm physically and psychologically.

Child Minding and the Pre School Child - This service was continued in 1972 on the same agency basis as the Domestic Help Service, and was handed over shortly after the year end to the Social Services Department. The Department of Education and Science are now committed to an extension of the nursery school system which has remained static since the last war and one can look forward to some reduction of the age at which children are able to commence school. It is my opinion that supervision of the playgroup of which there is a number in the area should have gone to the Education Department rather than to the Social Services who are fully stretched in the field of 'welfare' in all its ramifications.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, SURVEYOR
AND HOUSING MANAGER
for 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the Wath Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit my annual report for 1972.

Without doubt the most significant local government event of the century took place during the year with the passing of the Local Government Act 1972. As a result of that Act the Wath Rural District Council will cease to exist and on 1st April, 1974 the district will merge with districts of nine other local authorities and be administered at second tier level by the Harrogate District Council.

The Wath Rural District Council can look back over its life with pride. Since its formation in 1894 it has done much to improve the conditions in which its residents live. Although a small authority, it has always thought big. An early start was made with provision of housing accommodation with the building of the South View, Wath, houses in 1929 and a continuous building programme since that date. More recently the Council embarked on a progressive modernisation programme for its earlier houses. Very few villages are without proper sewage disposal facilities because of the Council's determination some years ago and but for restrictions on capital expenditure all the village schemes would now be completed. The Council recently met the challenge of development explosion by its willingness to enlarge its existing sewage disposal works to cope with the increased demand, a willingness which is again being frustrated by Government restrictions on expenditure.

The Council must now look to April 1974 not as the end of an era but as the beginning of a new era. The Council recognised some years ago the need to merge to form a larger more resourceful authority and it is largely as a result of those early discussions that the agreed grouping of authorities was confirmed. An authority with the resources of the Harrogate District Council will be well placed to continue and improve upon the services given so well in the past by the Wath Rural District Council.

The services given and legislation administered by local government is becoming more complex and the resources of a local authority must be adequate to meet those demands. The Joint Committee that has laid the foundations for the Harrogate District Council has recognised the need for a strong environmental health section. This is right. The public is now rightly demanding high standards of environmental protection. Many of the benefits of progress are marred by the effect that they have on the environment. Today we are needing to combat problems not envisaged when the present district councils were formed - excessive noise, chemical pollution of food and water supplies, pollution of the atmosphere, etc. and we must expect the new district council to protect its community's environment.

May I acknowledge the help and cooperation given to me during the year by both members and staff and the Claro Water Board and Ryedale Joint Water Board for the information relating to their supplies.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M.D. HEY

Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and
Housing Manager

PARISHES AND POPULATION DENSITY. The following table sets out the acreage, the number of dwellinghouses, and the estimated population of each parish in the area.

The number of houses includes those on which there are Demolition Orders or Undertakings made under the Housing Acts.

The population of 2310 is estimated by the Registrar General for mid-1972 and this gives a density of 2.9 persons per dwelling.

Parish	Acreage	Number of Houses	Estimated Population
Asenby	1179	76	210
Baldersby	1831	95	230
Cundall-with-Leckby	2052	35	160
Dishforth	1765	161	615
Hutton Conyers	3212	60	170
Marton-le-Moor	1679	43	120
Melmerby	1139	109	265
Middleton Quernhow	763	25	70
Norton Conyers	1042	15	40
Rainton-with-Newby	1578	103	270
Wath	767	67	160
	17007	789	2310

Additional to the above resident population there are an estimated 170 bed spaces available at peak visitor periods in hotels, boarding houses, recreational caravan and camping sites, etc., an average of 300 students at any one time on residential courses at the Dishforth Police Training Centre and an estimated 3800 persons served on an average day at catering establishments which are primarily used by persons not resident in the district.

WATER SUPPLIES. The statutory water undertakers in the area are the Claro Water Board and the Ryedale Joint Water Board.

Several commercial premises along the A.1 and numerous farms and isolated dwellings are not connected to the public supply but have their own private supplies. In all, 717 dwellings are connected to a public supply and 72 have no connection. There are throughout the district 24 separate sources of private water supplies.

Details of the public water supplies for 1972 are as follows :-

Asenby:

Water Undertakers:	Ryedale Joint Water Board.
Source of Supply:	Kepwick Springs augmented at times from Boltby Reservoir. East Ness source used in emergencies.

Baldersby (including Baldersby St. James):

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Baldersby St. James Borehole. Melmerby Springs available for standby use.

Cundall:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Ryedale Joint Water Board. Kepwick Springs augmented at times from Boltby Reservoir. East Ness source used in emergencies.

Dishforth (excluding Camp):

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Baldersby St. James Borehole. Melmerby Springs available for standby use.

Dishforth Camp:

Water Undertakers: Ryedale Joint Water Board.
Source of Supply: Kepwick Springs augmented at times from Boltby Reservoir. East Ness source used in emergencies.

Hutton Conyers:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Lumley Moor Reservoir.

Marton-le-Moor:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Marton-le-Moor Borehole (6 dwellings connected to supply from Lumley Moor Reservoir).

Melmerby:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Baldersby St. James Borehole. Melmerby Springs available for standby use.

Norton Conyers:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Lumley Moor Reservoir.

Rainton:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Baldersby St. James Borehole. Melmerby Springs available for standby use.

Wath:

Water Undertakers: Claro Water Board.
Source of Supply: Lumley Moor Reservoir. Wath Borehole available for standby use.

The high nitrate content in the Marton-le-Moor supply continued and a scheme was prepared by the Claro Water Board for a new main to Marton-le-Moor supplying water from a low-nitrate source. It was expected that the new water supply would be available to the village by Spring, 1973, after which the existing borehole at Marton-le-Moor would be retained only as a standby source.

36 samples were taken of the Claro Water Board supplies for bacteriological examination and 7 from the Ryedale Joint Water Board supplies by the respective Boards. All samples were satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL. 607 dwellings are connected to the public sewers, 57 to private sewage disposal works and the remaining 123 to private septic tanks.

Details of the systems in the villages are as follows :-

Asenby:

Disposal works in operation since 1964. Screen, 2 No. horizontal flow settlement tanks, filter bed, 2 No. humus tanks. Combined sewerage system. Approximately 90% of sewage pumped to works from 1 No. pumping station. Design capacity 4,500 g.p.d. The works are approximately 25% overloaded and residential development within the village restricted because of this.

Baldersby:

Disposal works in operation since 1961. Screen, 2 No. horizontal flow settlement tanks, filter bed, 2 No. humus tanks. Designed for foul sewage only. Sewage pumped at Works. Design capacity 7,500 g.p.d.

Baldersby St. James:

All properties connected to the sewer have septic tanks and the effluent passes through a small sedimentation tank before discharge to the River Swale.

Cundall:

Disposal works in operation since 1968. Septic tank, filter bed, humus tank. Designed for foul sewage only. Approximately 14% of sewage pumped to Works from 1 No. pumping station. Sewage pumped at Works. Design capacity 8,000 g.p.d.

Dishforth:

Disposal works in operation since 1966. Screen, upward flow settlement tank, filter bed, 2 No. Humus tanks. Designed for foul sewage only. Gravity system throughout. Design capacity 14,000 g.p.d. The Works are overloaded and residential development within the village restricted because of this.

Hutton Conyers:

Untreated sewage to stream. During the year work commenced on a mains drainage scheme for the village with a pumping main to discharge the sewage into the Ripon City Sewerage System. The Contractor, however, went into liquidation and at the end of the year tenders were being received from other contractors for the completion of the scheme.

Marton-le-Moor:

The sewage is passed through 2 No. small Council-owned settlement tanks before being discharged through a system of pipework to Cundall Beck.

Melmerby and Wath:

Disposal works at Wath in operation since 1955. Screen, 2 No. horizontal flow settlement tanks, 2 No. filter beds, 2 No. humus tanks, combined sewerage system, sewage pumped at Works. Design capacity 13,500 g.p.d. Slightly overloaded.

Middleton Quernhow:

Sewage drains to a Council-owned septic tank, mains drainage scheme has been designed and programmed to commence in 1973/74.

Rainton:

Disposal works in operation since 1959, extended 1968. Screen, 3 No. horizontal flow settlement tanks, 2 No. filter beds, 3 No. humus tanks, sewage pumped at Works. Designed for foul sewage only. Design capacity 24,000 g.p.d.

One effluent sample was taken from the Cundall Sewage Disposal Works by the Yorkshire River Authority and did not comply with the terms of the Authority's consent and one sample from the Rainton Sewage Disposal Works which did comply with the terms of the River Authority's consent.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. The collection of household refuse is let out on contract. A backdoor collection takes place on a fortnightly frequency with the exception of 48 married quarters at Dishforth R.A.F. Station which receive a weekly collection. Catering establishments receive a more regular collection and collection of refuse from the Police Training Centre and Ministry of Defence, Dishforth, is carried out twice a week. Bulky items of household refuse are collected free.

Disposal is by tipping in the Hutton Conyers Parish at King Quarry. An earth moving machine was hired for one morning each week to level out and cover over the refuse with soil.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967. During the year action was taken in respect of 7 abandoned vehicles as shown in the table below :-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Procedure</u>	<u>Result</u>
5 saloon cars	Blue Star Service Area, A.l.	Wrecks	Statutory	Disposed of by R.D.C.
Saloon car	Wath village	Runner	Statutory	Disposed of by R.D.C.
Saloon car	Baldersby Roundabout	Runner	Statutory	Disposed of by R.D.C.

FOOD HYGIENE. There are 20 food premises within the district subject to the control of Food Hygiene Regulations classified as follows :-

- a) Retail distribution (where multi-purpose classified under principal business).
 - (i) General foods (grocery, sweets, confectionery, etc.) 7
 - (ii) Licensed public houses (several of which also have full catering facilities) 7
 - (iii) Cafes, restaurants, etc. 4
 - (iv) Private school canteens 1
- b) Manufacture
 - (i) Preparation and packaging of game pate 1

14 food hygiene inspections were made; 5 unsatisfactory conditions were found, 4 of which were remedied by the end of the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT REGISTRATIONS. 8 premises within the district are licensed to sell ice-cream. All obtain ice-cream pre-packed from manufacturers and store it in modern deep-freeze cabinets until sold. A number of vans from outside the area retail ice-cream. There are no manufacturing premises.

1 premise was registered during the year for the preparation and packaging of game pate.

MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION. There are no slaughterhouses or poultry processing premises within the district.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963. At the end of the year there were 11 premises registered, classified as follows :-

Offices	3
Retail Shops	1
Wholesale Shops, warehouse	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	5
Fuel storage depots	1

FACTORIES ACT 1961. Appendix 1 gives details of the factories registered under the Factories Act 1961.

CARAVAN SITES. At the end of the year there were 5 licensed sites, 4 of which were for individual residential caravans and one a night halt for 15 caravans and 15 tents.

PEST CONTROL. 77 properties were visited and inspected during the year to investigate rodent infestation complaints and for survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

PRIVATE BUILDING WORK. During the year 80 plans were submitted for consideration under the Building Regulations, a number of these being for estate developments of several houses. The volume of building work within the district has been expanding each year for several years and this year's plans submitted exceeds last year's figure by 50% and the 1971 number by 100%.

Construction of 12 private dwellings was completed during the year and 8 additional dwellings created by conversion of buildings.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS. During the year 22 grants were approved for improvement to houses and 37 grants were approved for conversions under the Housing Act 1969. No applications were received for Standard Grants.

The present grant scheme is having a substantial effect on the improvement of housing stock. Prior to the 1969 Act there was an annual average of 2 improvement schemes and 1 conversion scheme. Most schemes are for improvement of substandard houses. A small proportion are for minor works to reasonable quality houses but the work and cost involved on these takes an insignificant amount of the total available resources.

No harassment to tenants has been apparent. Speculators are now seeking houses for improvement and immediate profit but only 4 of the 59 applications approved were made to applicants thought to be speculators.

33% of the improved properties and 90% of the converted properties are expected to be tenanted on completion of work.

Building labour resources have been very stretched and materials difficult to obtain. Because of the present rate of improvement activity and other construction work, builders' estimates have not been as competitive as in leaner times; however, there has been no evidence of reputable builders charging exorbitant prices.

HOUSING CONDITIONS. A further 278 house condition surveys were carried out during the year bringing the number surveyed, since the implementation of the Housing Act 1969, up to 50% of the total housing stock. Based on the survey there are an estimated 16 houses in the district considered to be unfit but not yet represented and 181 houses not unfit but considered to be in need of improvement. 14 houses were represented as unfit during the year resulting in the making of 10 Demolition Orders and the acceptance of 1 undertaking. Action on 3 houses was pending at the end of the year.

Appendix 2 sets out details of the housing conditions and the number of private water supplies in each parish.

COUNCIL HOUSING. The Council owns the following dwellings :-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>
Asenby	6	3
Baldersby	4	6
Baldersby St. James	2	2
Cundall	4	2
Dishforth	22	11
Hutton Conyers	4	6
Marton-le-Moor	8	4
Melmerby	24	5
Rainton	10	8
Wath	14	-
	98	47

Making a total of 145 dwellings.

A contract was let and the work started during the year for the construction of 4 bungalows at Dishforth, 2 bungalows at Baldersby and 2 bungalows at Melmerby and negotiations commenced for the purchase of a site at Wath for 4 bungalows.

Improvement schemes to modernise 18 pre-war houses to Parker Morris standard were commenced during the year.

NUISANCES. 2 nuisances were abated by informal action during the year.

APPENDIX 1

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector in respect of the year 1972 for the Rural District Council of Wath in the County of Yorkshire (North Riding).

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	7	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found - 0.

Part VIII of the Act - Outwork - (Sections 110 and 111) - Nil Return.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

	No. of houses	Condemned or represented as unfit	Unfit but not represented	In need of improvement	No bathroom	No internal W.C.	No W.C.	Not connected to sewer	Septic tanks	No piped water supply (public mains)	Private water supply
Asenby	76	6	1	12	4	4	2	15	12	4	3
Baldersby	95	-	2	26	8	8	2	19	12	3	2
Cundall	35	-	-	10	-	-	-	11	11	-	-
Dishforth	161	11	2	24	8	7	1	2	2	1	1
Hutton Conyers	60	1	1	14	4	3	-	26	16	16	7
Marton-le-Moor	43	1	1	15	1	1	-	4	2	-	-
Melmerby	109	1	3	18	5	5	-	4	5	2	1
Middleton Quernhow	25	-	2	11	1	2	1	14	9	23	5
Norton Conyers	15	1	1	5	1	1	1	13	10	-	-
Rainton	103	1	1	30	10	10	-	22	10	20	4
Wath	67	-	2	16	4	5	3	4	3	3	1
TOTALS :	789	22	16	181	46	46	10	134	92	72	24

